

TEXAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

A Pocket

Guide
to



21st Century
LIBRARIES

About **TEXANS** & **LIBRARIES**

*Texans visit libraries about **150,000,000** times a year!*

*Texas academic, public, and school libraries spend
\$1.37 BILLION a year!*

If you only counted the number of books circulated in Texas public (105,919,425) and academic (11,682,136) libraries in a year and multiplied that by average book prices (\$20), you'd get an industry whose **"merchandise" value is \$2.35 billion!**

Libraries' total return on investment includes:

- circulation of materials and statewide interlibrary loans
- the impact of thousands of people attending free library literacy, technology, job, and business programs
- the benefit of libraries' role supporting student achievement, research in higher education, and economic development
- the provision of electronic resources worth millions of dollars of access to costly research and financial information

***Texas libraries are one of the most
treasured resources of our state.***

***Their return on investment
is almost too large to measure.***

Libraries are instruments for

INNOVATION

&

SUCCESS

SELF-FULFILLMENT

Our purpose is simple

but profoundly important to our state and country:

help individuals and society advance.

Libraries span the broad spectrum of education, cultural heritage, community service, and economic development. Libraries provide citizens with the resources, instruction, and technology to:

- **expand their knowledge**
- **stimulate their creativity and problem-solving skills**
- **apply their education to concrete actions for reaching life goals.**

LIBRARIES ARE NEEDED ...

NEEDED MORE THAN EVER

LIBRARIES = EDUCATION

“As the larger return to education and skill is likely the single greatest source of the long-term increase in inequality, policies that boost our national investment in education and training can help reduce inequality while expanding economic opportunity.”

Ben Bernanke, chairman of the Federal Reserve, 2007

LIBRARIES have served as the

“UNIVERSAL CLASSROOM” for generations.

Information literacy is the universal currency for success in today's competitive world. This is especially true for our children who must be equipped to **ACCESS, USE, & EVALUATE INFORMATION** competently and ethically.

No other category of institution is specifically geared to address the long term individual and social needs of information literacy across all age groups.

Libraries help individuals, communities, businesses, and government meet their goals.

EDUCATION = Skills, Innovation, & Opportunity

EDUCATION = Economic Development & Long Term Progress

LIBRARIES = *A Better State, A Better Country*

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Libraries provide critical support to help people in tough economic times and boost business activity.

How Texas libraries support workforce, business, and economic development:

Helping Americans Get Jobs: **65%** of Texas libraries provide services for job seekers, including assistance in resume building, job searches, and enhancing job skills.

Offering financial literacy: Libraries offer free on-site financial education that includes investor education, information on tax preparation, assistance on financial aid applications, and access to expensive financial journals and periodicals.

Supporting Small Business

Development: For many small businesses, the library provides research resources and specially trained staff they could not otherwise afford.

Providing Free Public Computer and Internet Access: **74%** of Texas libraries report they are the only provider of free Internet access in their communities.

Connecting People with Government Services: Over **75%** of Texas public libraries report they regularly help patrons understand and use e-government services.

Statistics from the American Library Association's Libraries Connect Communities: Public Library Funding & Technology Access Study 2007-2008

TEXAS VOTERS SAY

NINE IN 10 AGREE *that, during economic hard times, public libraries provide important resources to families and job seekers.*

83% BELIEVE *public libraries support the economy through job skills training, career and job information, and resources for local businesses.*

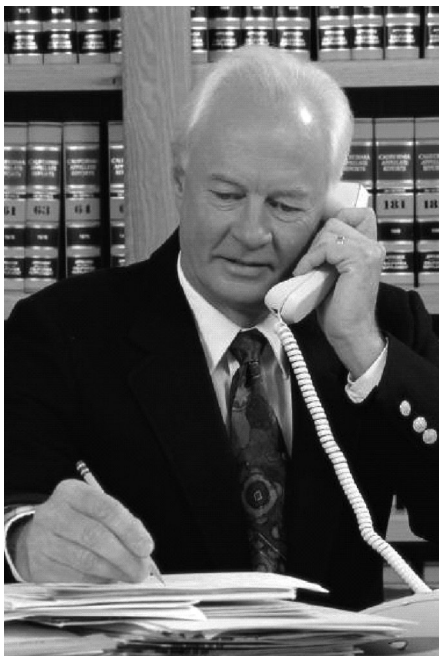
SPECIAL LIBRARIES

Special libraries offer services within a specialized environment, such as **universities, corporations, hospitals, the military, private businesses,** and the **government**. Special libraries can serve particular populations, such as the blind and physically handicapped, while others are dedicated to special collections, such as the **Library of Congress**.

Staff in a special library must be aware of materials, developments, issues and research in that library's area of focus. In a pharmaceutical company, for example, the library will need to offer materials to support the research that is done so that scientists have a comprehensive view of what has already been established in their area of interest. Special libraries are funded by their parent institutions.

Statistics provided in the 31st edition of the *Directory of Special Libraries and Information Centers* indicate that there are **34,750** special libraries globally.

For full text on academic & special libraries, go to www.ilovelibraries.org.



ACADEMIC LIBRARIES FACTS¹

- Texas has 196 college, university, and community college libraries which, during a typical week in the fall, have almost **2 million student visits** and enter into over **75,000 reference transactions**.
- Texas academic libraries hold a total of **60,605,609 volumes**. California holds 91,909,211 volumes, and New York holds 87,309,523.
- Expenditures for Texas academic libraries totaled \$381,166,316.

DID YOU KNOW?

Academic libraries today offer library instruction services through a multitude of high tech venues, including Second Life.

Check out Austin Community College's Know How Island.

In our higher education institutions, libraries are integral to coursework leading to degrees at all levels and serve as the foundation for research and innovation in all fields of study including science, industry, business, and education.

The key mission of academic libraries is to support the research and teaching missions of their institutions through the delivery of services and the broadest array of resources.

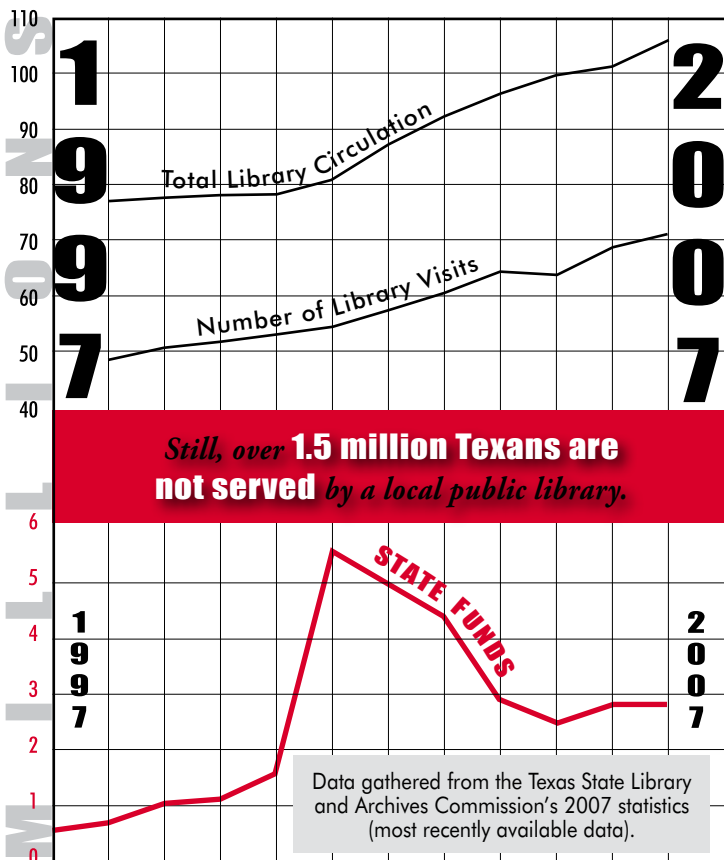
Research says ... “Return on Investment: Libraries and Student Retention”² finds that library expenditures and professional staff have a significant positive effect on student retention. The study also finds that the relationship between expenditures on resources and retention is greatest at the undergraduate level, while the relationship between expenditures on staff and retention is greatest at doctoral-granting institutions.

1 Statistics from the National Center for Education Statistics most recently published data, *Academic Libraries 2006*.

2 Elizabeth M. Mezick, *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, September 2007

PUBLIC LIBRARY FAQS

In 2007, Texas public libraries served **21,904,476 people** through about **550 public libraries**.



PUBLIC LIBRARIES

serve communities of all sizes and types. Wherever you live, there's likely to be a local public library nearby. As the name implies, public libraries serve the general public "from cradle to grave."

With library patrons that include

afterschoolers,

homeschoolers,

distance learners, and researchers,

public libraries represent the public's bridge to structured educational campuses.

Additionally, public libraries serve the diverse needs of communities and provide services ranging from preschool reading classes to workforce development skills to the acquisition of costly resources needed by small businesses for their enterprises.

Public libraries also serve as a unique and trusted symbol of community.

TEXAS VOTERS SAY

Texas voters agree that public libraries are a good value for tax dollars (94% including 70% who strongly agree) and deserve more funding (87%, including 62% who strongly agree).

95% believe that public libraries improve the quality of life in their communities



Libraries are a place for people to come together and form a civic bond. In many Texas communities – a staggering **75% of public libraries serve communities smaller than 25,000** – the library is the only place that offers information resources and a community gathering center.



SCHOOL LIBRARY FAQs¹

- Texas has 5,061 (FTE) school librarians serving a total of 4,651,516 students in 2007-08.
- Each school librarian in Texas serves an average of 919 students. That's an average 46 classes per school librarian!
- The average budgeted expenditures for school libraries in 2007-08, including staffing and materials, was \$126 per student, or 1.66% of the total operating expenditure for schools statewide.

Did you know?

A certified school librarian must have two years of classroom teaching experience, hold a master's degree, and pass a graduate level exam on school library practices.

See TAC, Title 19, Part 7, Chapter 239.60.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES = STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

More than **60 studies** have shown **clear evidence** of this connection between student achievement and the presence of school libraries with qualified librarians.²

1 Funding statistics from the Texas Education Agency budget and staffing figures for 2008.

2 http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslproftools/resourceguides/sl3_2008.pdf.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

are sophisticated 21st Century learning environments. They offer a full range of print and electronic resources to provide equal learning opportunities for all students.

School libraries are places where teachers and librarians help students develop essential reading, technological, and digital comprehension skills.

Library instruction centers on teaching information literacy and expertise in solving problems, drawing conclusions, making informed decisions, and learning to participate effectively within a collaborative working environment.

The Needs of Public School Libraries, a study just completed by the Texas Education Agency and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, reports:

With the focus of ensuring that 21st Century students and educators have 21st Century resources and information and the skills to use them effectively, the library continues to play a critical role in Texas public schools. Public school library programs increase student ability to learn and provide a more successful learning environment. School libraries support core curriculum areas, enabling students to achieve their potential and fully participate now and in the future in the social, economic, and educational opportunities of our state, nation, and world.

TEXAS VOTERS SAY

The vast majority of Texans believe that libraries are almost as important as classroom education.

99% (including 84% who strongly agree) believe school libraries are essential to education and will vote in support of them.

94% believe that school librarians are critical to student achievement.

TLA **81st** SESSION LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

POLICIES

- ★ **School Libraries for ALL Students** – All Texas children should enjoy equitable access to quality school library programs and the support of certified school librarians

LEGISLATIVE ACTION NEEDED:

Support legislation ensuring that all Texas students and teachers benefit from the instructional support of a certified school librarian.

- ★ **Purchasing Efficiency** – Update language in the *Education Code* (Title 3, Sec. 130.0101) to clarify that community colleges enjoy the same purchasing exemptions as state universities.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION NEEDED:

Support legislation (HB 962) clarifying that community college libraries are entitled to the same purchasing efficiencies as state universities.



FUNDING

- ★ **TexShare** – Support \$5.25 million for each year of the biennium that is requested as an exceptional item in the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) budget *(See Article I of the General Appropriations Act)*.
- ★ **K-12 Databases** – Support \$4 million for each year of the biennium that is requested as an exceptional item in the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) budget *(See Article I of the General Appropriations Act)*.
- ★ **Loan Star Libraries** – Support \$4.35 million for each year of the biennium that is requested as an exceptional item in the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) budget *(See Article I of the General Appropriations Act)*.
- ★ **Texas Library Systems** – Support \$2 million for each year of the biennium that is requested as an exceptional item in the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) budget *(See Article I of the General Appropriations Act)*.

TEXAS VOTERS SAY

*Strong majorities support increasing public funding for both public (81%) and school (82%) libraries. In fact, **at least seven in ten** voters across every demographic, geographic, and political segment **support increased funding** for both public and school libraries.*

TLA Legislative
Priorities and
One Pagers:

[http://www.
txla.org/html/
govt_aff.html](http://www.txla.org/html/govt_aff.html)

TEXSHARE

*working to
serve all Texans*

What is TexShare?

The TexShare Library Consortium is made up of public and college libraries to support collaboration among libraries to enhance public access to resources and services.

What programs and services make up TexShare?

- *electronic databases* – digital books, articles, and resources;
- *training/educational services* – library users and librarians learning how to maximize TexShare;
- *statewide card program* – allows users to borrow materials from libraries across the state;
- *interlibrary loan* – allows cost-effective delivery of interlibrary loan materials; and
- *grants for digitization* – helps preserve rare Texas materials

Who administers TexShare?

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC).

How much money does TexShare Library Consortium save?

Through centralized statewide purchasing, the consortium procured \$13 worth of subscriptions for \$1 in 2008.

What kinds of subscriptions or publications can the consortium buy?

Electronic full text journals, reference material, and subscription resources like Business Source Complete, MEDLINE, Academic Search Premier, and the Science and Technology Collection.

Who participates in TexShare?

All of the state's public libraries (543), 4-year public and private universities (94), community colleges (60), and libraries of clinical medicine (4).

Who can use TexShare?

Any person in Texas with a public library card or who attends a Texas college or university.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION NEEDED:

Fund the TSLAC's exceptional item request for \$5.25 million each year for TexShare. (See the General Appropriations Act, Article I.)

What gaps and limitations will exceptional item funding address?

- *specialized research materials*
- *training on TexShare resources* for the public and institutions of higher education
- *career training and advancement testing materials* for police, firefighters, state troopers, civil servants, and EMS
- *expanded access* to world-class medical resources
- *specialized science materials* for university-level research
- *improved statewide interlibrary loan* support among libraries in the state
- *statewide digitization grants* for unique Texas records, such as historical maps, archives, and other documents





K-12 DATABASES

What is the K-12 Database Initiative?

It is a statewide program that offers thousands of online full-text educational resources – such as reference works, multi-media programs, authoritative journals – to Texas public school students.

What do the K-12 databases do?

- support student achievement and curricular needs
- provide resources for teachers, administrators, and parents
- offer materials and online work environments that are authoritative, accurate, and free of commercial bias, advertising, and unwanted information
- make available age-appropriate resources and interfaces for all K-12 learners
- provide learning modules for learners

Who can use the K-12 databases?

Any student, teacher, or administrator in any public school in Texas can access these resources. Parents and students can also use these resources from home for research.

Why do schools need the K-12 databases if Google is free?

Unlike Google, the K-12 Database Initiative provides students with immediate access to quality, subscription resources that are accurate and secure through their school libraries. These resources are “commercial free” and are not available on Google for free.

Does the K-12 Database Initiative save taxpayers money?

Central purchasing allows for a far better cost for resources than what individual districts could negotiate on their own. And, this program allows all students equitable access to the same broad array of resources.

Who administers the K-12 databases?

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) in strong partnership with the Texas Education Agency and Educational Service Center 20.

What is the current funding for the Initiative?

The K-12 Database Initiative is funded at \$2.5 million per year with funds from the Technology Allotment found in the Texas Education Agency's budget.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION NEEDED:

Fund TSLAC's exceptional item request for \$4 million each year for K-12 databases. (See the General Appropriations Act, Article I.)

What gaps and limitations will exceptional item funding address?

- add science materials (including Access Science, eLibrary Science, and Facts on File Science Online)
- add language arts resources (e.g., Literature Resource Center – a primary resource for English classes)
- add multi-media, newspaper, and current daily resources for curricular support
- facilitate cataloging and sharing of information through library records
- ensure all K-12 students have access to the program
- increase educator resources & training, including sample lessons and learning modules.





LOAN STAR LIBRARIES

What is Loan Star Libraries?

Loan Star Libraries is a direct aid program that provides grants for about 550 public libraries statewide. Local public libraries can use these funds to extend hours, purchase collections and equipment, and provide educational programming.

What is the current funding for Loan Star Libraries?

The program is funded at \$5.65 million per year. The exceptional item request for Loan Star Libraries would bring the total grant funds to \$10 million each year of the biennium.

Why is the Loan Star Libraries program important?

This program:

- supports workforce development in communities throughout the state
- allows local libraries to expand hours and services
- promotes adult education and job advancement
- provides funding for early literacy and student support programs
- allows local libraries to identify and meet unique local needs
- provides essential access to the Internet and needed educational programming

<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/funding/loanstar/>

What level of state support do public libraries receive in today's tough economic times?

Public local budgets are shrinking, and libraries are struggling to maintain services and address growing public needs. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, **Texas provides only about 1%** of the total support for the state's libraries – an amount well below the national average of about 10%.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION NEEDED:

Fund the TSLAC's exceptional item request for \$4.35 million each year for Loan Star Libraries. (See the General Appropriations Act, Article I.)

What gaps and limitations in service will be addressed with this exceptional item funding?

- Updated technology and collections – From rural communities to large urban areas, the need for increased technology (hardware, software, and broader collections services) is enormous.
- Workforce development programs – Libraries statewide are reporting that job testing and training, adult literacy initiatives, and resume and job seeking classes, are in high demand.
- Early literacy – A high percentage of libraries throughout the state report a need to expand early literacy and student programming.



- Teen users – Libraries statewide are reporting the need to create separate programs and environments for teen users. By providing homework assistance and reading clubs, for example, libraries can provide a much-needed learning environment for this important age group.

SYSTEMS

What are the Regional Public Library Systems?

The Regional Public Library Systems program consists of ten regional service centers that provide support in the form of continuing education, program training, and consulting and reference service to public libraries.

Why were these regional service centers created?

Administered through the State Library, the Regional Library Systems were created in 1969 to support the statewide goals of education and economic development by strengthening the state's public libraries.

Who benefits from the regional library systems?

The Regional Library Systems program serves almost 550 accredited public libraries in the state by helping train library staff to maximize public dollars, provide quality programming and services, and forge collaborations that benefit the state and local communities.

Does the new funding address other state requirements?

The requested increase will allow the Regional Library Systems program to address growing demand from communities statewide for services and to offer expanded programming as stipulated through the 2007 reauthorization act for the Texas State Library.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION NEEDED:

Fund TSLAC's exceptional item request for \$2 million each year of the biennium for the Regional Systems Program. (See Article I of the General Appropriations Bill.)

What gaps and limitations will exceptional item funding address?

- The funding will offset dramatic cuts made to the program as a result of state reductions.
- The funding will help rural communities, in particular, continue to receive professional support for libraries.
- The increase will help Systems provide services to school and academic libraries.

MY LIBRARIES

To find storytime hours, reading programs, and other local services,
contact your local public and school library.

To find a library, school, or academic institution near you,
go to: <http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/tools/>.

Texas Libraries in the News: www.txla.org/html/NewsClips.html

All about libraries in America (with link's to Oprah's Book Club):
www.ilovelibraries.org

MY READERS

Talking Book Program: Library resources for the blind and
physically disabled; www.tsl.state.tx.us/tbp/index.html

Interviews with new authors: www.openbooksradio.org/

What books can I get my child to read?

The Texas Library Association offers several outstanding reading
lists designed to foster a love of lifelong voluntary reading. There
are four great lists developed to cover all school ages.

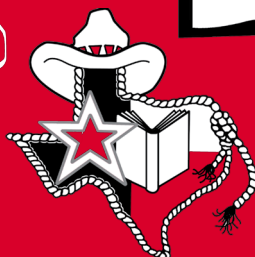
Age 2- Grade 2 *2x2 Reading List*

Grades 3-6..... *Texas Bluebonnet Award Master List*

Grades 6-8 *Lone Star Reading List*

Grades 9-12 *Tayshas Reading List*

*Visit www.txla.org to find these
lists of recommended books.*



*Texans Love Libraries: **Statewide Survey***

PUBLIC LIBRARIES *are valuable to Texans, especially in hard economic times.*

- ★ An overwhelming majority of Texas voters say their public library is very important (79%, with an additional 13% saying fairly important) to their community and **90% are satisfied with their public library** (including 72% who are very or extremely satisfied).
- ★ Texas voters are nearly unanimous that public libraries create educational opportunities for all citizens (97% agree including 78% who strongly agree) and **95% believe public libraries improve the quality of life** in their community.
- ★ Texans say many library services are very important to the community: 83% say reading programs and organized activities for children and young people is very important and 80% say free access to diverse and current books and other information is very important.



SCHOOL LIBRARIES *are vital to education – and Texans are willing to vote in support of them.*

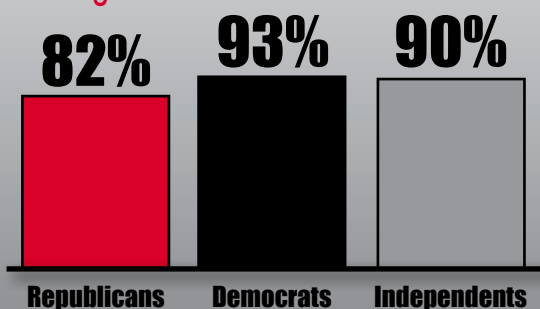
- ★ Nearly all Texans (99% including 84% who strongly agree) believe **school libraries are an essential part** of the education experience and more than nine in ten agree (94%) that school librarians are critical to student achievement.
- ★ The vast majority (**93%**) **would support legislation** that would require public schools to provide students with a school library and librarian that meets statewide standards. More than eight in ten voters across every demographic segment and geographic region support the legislation, including 88% of Republicans, 95% of Democrats, and 96% of Independents.

Texas voters support increasing funding for both school and public libraries.

- ★ Texas voters agree **public libraries are a good value** for the tax dollar (94%, including 70% who strongly agree) and deserve more funding (87%, including 62% who strongly agree).
- ★ Strong **majorities support increasing public funding** for both public (81%) and school (82%) libraries. In fact, at least seven in ten voters across every demographic, geographic and political segment support increased funding for both public and school libraries.

My public library deserves more funding.

% Agree



About the survey

TLA's first comprehensive statewide survey was made possible through the generous support of the Brown Foundation of Houston and the Tocker Foundation of Austin.

Commissioned by the Texas Library Association, KRC Research conducted 1,201 telephone interviews with a random sample of Texas voters from Oct. 17 through Nov. 2 2008. The margin of error for the entire sample is +/- 2.8 percentage points.

For detailed survey results and more information, go to <http://www.txla.org/html/pr/survey.html>.

TEXANS SPEAK

*“The librarian helped me renew my electrician license online.
This means I can continue my work.”*

Tony – Harrington Library
Plano Public Library System

*“Just wanted to say thank you for the great story this morning!
I tried to read that story [Juan Verdades: The Man Who Couldn’t
Tell a Lie] to a class last year and didn’t do it justice,
so it was nice to hear it told so well.”*

Third Grade Teacher
Edgar Allan Poe Elementary School
Houston ISD

*“Libraries are not warehouses for books; libraries are palaces
of learning – a palace with words that will not keep anyone out
regardless of your race or economic level; a palace of learning
that will allow you to soar to the highest level of your potential.
And, I owe my life to my father and mother and to that palace
of learning called the San Antonio Public Library which
allowed me to break the chains of poverty and be a
contributor to the state of Texas.”*

José García de Lara, an architect who prepared for the state’s
architecture exam by reading the architecture section of the San
Antonio Public Library. (It took him 10 years, but his office is now two
blocks from the downtown library.)

*“Its [the library’s] value comes from the inspiration that happens
as my children browse the bookshelves and display. Watching
one of my daughters find a book and start reading it right
there because she can’t wait to get it out the door is priceless.”*

Jody Scott
Riter C. Hulsey Public Library
Terrell



*I want more
librarians.*

Patron
Oak Springs Branch
Austin Public Library

STANDARDS & POLICIES

Texas Statutes available at: www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/

Texas Administrative Code: www.sos.state.tx.us/tac/index.shtml

School Library Standards

A Resource Page: www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/schoollibs/

Education Code, 33.021

Texas Administrative Code, Title 13, Chapter 4

Public Libraries

Standards: www.tsl.state.tx.us/plstandards/

Directory & Statistics: www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/pubs/pls/index.html

Academic Libraries

Standards and Guidelines: www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/standards/standardsguidelines.cfm

Directory & Statistics: www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/pubs/als/index.html

GOVERNING POLICIES

School Librarian Certification

Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Chapter 239, Subchapter B

School Library Facilities

Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Chapter 61.1036

Texas State Library and Archives Commission

Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 441

TexShare

Government Code, Chapter 441 Subchapter M

Texas Administrative Code, Title 13

Regional Library System Program

Government Code, Chapter 441 Subchapter I

Texas Administrative Code, Title 13

Local County Libraries

Local Government Code, Chapter 323

Library Districts

Local Government Code, Chapters 326 (Library Districts) and

Local Government Code, Chapter 336 (Multi-jurisdictional Library Districts)

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Where can I find information about grants , awards, and funding sources for Texas libraries?

<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/funding/>

<http://www.txla.org/html/awards.html>

*TLA thanks these sponsors
for their generous support
of libraries.*

EBSCO Information Services
Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc.
Lee and Low Books
ProQuest



The Texas Library Association (TLA) was formed in 1902 to promote education and library services. With over 7,000 members representing all types of libraries and educational stakeholders, TLA serves the diverse needs of the thousands of libraries and library supporters in Texas.

TLA is a 501(c)3 charitable educational institution.

WWW.TXLA.ORG

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